

Subject: BATTUK, Viktor H. [] []
Source: [] []
Date: 23 June 1969

1. On 15 May 1969 Subject phoned Source asking for her friend Mary. After he was told that Mary was still in Europe and Source was going to join her there next day, he suggested he would come in the afternoon same day since he wanted to ~~xxx~~ bring a gift. Source agreed to meet with him at her home. He arrived in the early afternoon and brought with him a book by Lohvyn "Po Ukrayini" and 3 issues of "Patriarkhalny Visnyk" published in Ukrainian in Lvov. Subject remarked that he hoped Patriarkhalny Visnyk would be of particular interest to Mary. He also ^{had} an issue of Literaturna Ukraina or some other paper in which his poems had been recently published and recited them with "great emotion". It was Source's impression that this artificial acting was aimed at convincing her that he was a poet and a Ukrainian patriot in the first place and a diplomat only in the second.

2. During a general conversation Source raised the matter of Bishop Velychkovsky's arrest. Subject replied that "indeed, this was a rather unpleasant happening and we all were rather embarrassed when we heard about it". In his opinion, this occurred only on some direct initiative on the spot provoked by some overt violence of Soviet laws. The Soviet authorities knew all the time about Bishop Velychkovsky's activities and tolerated ^{them} therefore Subject's conclusion was there must have happened "something very sudden" that caused local authorities to take action against Velychkovsky and his clergy. So far as he knows, however, Velychkovsky has been transferred to Moscow "for talks with proper Soviet authorities" and he is not a regular prisoner but enjoys a special status. What exactly meant this special status Subject did not explain.

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

74-124-2713